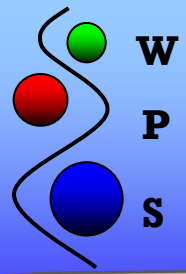


# Westminster Primary News

*...inspiring minds, nurturing excellence.*



21st September 2018

## Attendance

Westminster Primary School works in partnership with parents and the Local Authority to improve school attendance. Many thanks to all of you who ensure your children attend school regularly.

Absence affects the education of the individual pupil and the whole class. Studies have shown that children who do not attend school regularly:

- do not achieve well in exams
- find it difficult to maintain friendships
- are more likely to be involved in crime
- miss out on opportunities in further education and work

A child with 95% attendance during one school year will have missed approximately two weeks of school which equates to around 50 missed lessons!!

Please remember it is a parent's legal responsibility to ensure their children receive appropriate education. Failure to send your child to school regularly without good reason is a criminal offence and can lead to the issue of fixed penalty notices and even summons to court. Again, we would like to thank all those parents who make sure their child is attending school regularly and benefitting from their educational opportunities.



## Wellbeing Award for Schools

The wellbeing and emotional health of individuals in our school community is an area of importance and one which we will be targeting this year and going forward.

As part of this initiative, we will be working towards achieving a 'Wellbeing Award' for the school. This whole school award focuses on ensuring that effective practice and provision is in place which promotes the emotional well being and mental health of both staff and pupils. The drive will be on changing the long-term culture of the school and ensuring that mental health is seen as the responsibility of all. We will be working in partnership with other schools to share best practice and with parents/carers to address any issues or concerns. A 'change' team comprising of Mrs Patel and a number of staff in school has been set up in school to look at how we can support parents and pupils. We are looking for any parent volunteers who would like to join the change team. If you are interested or would like further information, please come and see Mrs Patel.

We will also set up workshops in this academic year to communicate with the wider school community on how we will be working to support emotional wellbeing and mental health. We hope you are able to support this initiative as often this area is disregarded and not given the importance it deserves.

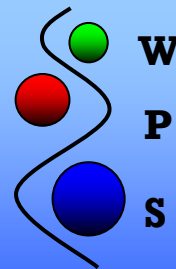
## Secondary School Applications

The deadline for making your child's secondary school application is 31st October 2018. You can do this by going online at <https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions>

We are having two drop-in sessions for parents who need help with online applications. These will take place on **Tuesday 9th Oct & Thursday 11th Oct from 2.30-3.10pm** in the ICT suite. Please pop along to these sessions if you require assistance with your child's application.

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21st September 2018



## Parents Information

Thank you to all those parents and carers who enrolled for the different ESOL classes on offer to help improve their English skills. The classes will be starting next week in the community room:

Monday 24th September Entry 2 ESOL from 12.30—2.30pm	}	run by BAEEDS
Tuesday 25th September Pre-Entry ESOL from 9.30—11.30am		
Wednesday 26th September Pre-Entry ESOL from 9.30—11.30am		
Tuesday 25th September Entry 3 ESOL from 10.00—12.00pm	}	run by WEA
Thursday 27th September Entry 1 ESOL 12.00—2.00pm		

Level 1 Childcare course to start on Tuesday 25th September, 1.00—3.00pm, in the community room.

## Curriculum overview and expectations meetings

Next week, we will be holding meetings from Monday to Friday for parents of pupils in Years 2,3,4,5 and 6. This is so that teachers can speak directly to parents regarding expectations and also give out information regarding the curriculum the various year groups will be following. Letters have already been sent out to individual year groups. Dates for the meetings for different year groups are summarised below:

**Mon 24th September—Year 6**      **Tues 25th September—Year 5**      **Wed 26th September—Year 4**  
**Thurs 27th September—Year 3**      **Fri 28th September—Year 2**

The meetings will all run from 9.00– 9.30am. Please be sure to attend.

## Sports—Coffee Morning

Our schools Sports Team will be holding a coffee morning on **Monday 1st October** from 8.50—9.20am in order to give parents more information about before and after school club provision. The team will also be on hand to give further information on the 'Active Life' programme which aims to help individuals to make small changes to their lifestyle in order to improve health and well-being. You can also ask any questions you may have regarding sports and PE provision in school. The venue is the community room. Please be sure to attend!

## Dates for your Diary

**Fri 26th October 2018:** Break up for Autumn Half-term Holiday  
**Mon 29th Oct to Fri 2nd Nov—**Half Term holiday  
**Mon 5th November—**School re-opens to pupils  
**Fri 21st December 2018:** Break up for Christmas Holidays  
**Monday 7th January 2019:** School re-opens to pupils

### **Wellbeing Award for Schools**

We have begun a Wellbeing Initiative. This initiative will support the school's vision putting emotional wellbeing and mental health at the heart of the school's aspirations. We are looking for parents to join our change team. If you are interested or for further information, please come and see Mrs Patel.

The Wellbeing Award promotes the following:

- A strategy is in place for emotional wellbeing and mental health. An audit is in place to address gaps in our provision.
- A whole community ethos is in place to support emotional wellbeing and mental health.
- CPD programme that includes emotional wellbeing and mental health
  - Mental health awareness training is available to staff
  - The school works in partnership with parents / carers
  - The school communicates with whole school community regarding emotional and mental well-being
  - Schools work with other schools to share best practice and new learning.

There will also be parent workshops in the academic year to support emotional well-being and mental health